John B. Scythes 32 Beaty Avenue Toronto, Ontario M6K 3B4

VA Medical Centre Houston, Texas Infectious Diseases Section

ATTN: Dr. Daniel M. Musher

Dear Sir:

You had once asked me where I came up with the impression that the sensitivity of standard syphilis screening was undersensitive in cases of reinfection or relapse. I enclose one of the references from J. E. Moore. Distinguishing between a relapse and reinfection has always been difficult since reinfection usually assumes the clinical appearance of the original immunising infection. I also enclose another interesting page from Moore.

I just recently discussed many of our concerns around syphilis and HIV infection with James N. Miller, with whom I have had many discussions. As I will be at the ICAAC I asked him if he would be willing to meet and he said fine, preferably Tuesday just after the STD committee meeting. I further suggested that I might ask you if you were interested to attend, and he was most delighted at this prospect.

Lopking forward to hearing from you or seeing you at the meeting,

John B. Scythes JBS/klm/encls)